THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Item-wise export and import figures for all the countries are given in the monthly publication, Foreign Trade Statistics of India, brought out by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta, which are available in the Parliament Library.

(c) Government is committed to promote trade with all countries, including the neighbouring countries.

Sending a team to other countries to boost export of Tobacco

1059. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tobacco Board has proposed to send a team to several countries like Egypt, China and Russia to boost export of tobacco;

(b) if so, the steps taken to accede to their request to assess demand and help farmers and traders in tobacco industry?

*THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) A delegation of 6 Members recently visited Libya, Jordan, Egypt and Algeria in February, 2000 to promote Indian exports of tobacco in these countries. Another delegation of tobacco exporters is to visit Russia shortly. The Tobacco Board has made a proposal to examine the prospect of exporting tobacco to countries in East Asia including China.

Export of items manufactured by SSI

†1060. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced any facilities or incentives to promote the export of items manufactured by Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any increase in export during the current year against last year from this sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. For the purpose of recognition as Export

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.